

January 24, 2012

Committee: Regulatory Reform

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Ouimet

Dear Committee Members,

In the interest of myself, I would like to provide comment regarding the Revised House Bill 5011.

House Bill 5011 would amend the Stille-DeRossett Hale Single State Construction Code Act (1970 PA 230) to allow a governmental subdivision to contract with a private organization to operate its building department.

The focus of this letter is to modify (H) "BUILDING OFFICIAL" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS EMPLOYED BY A GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION AND IS CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE CODE AND WHO IS REGISTERED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUILDING OFFICIALS AND INSPECTORS REGISTRATION ACT, (1986 PA 54, MCL 339.2301 TO 338.2313.) THIS INDIVIDUAL MAY ALSO BE AN EMPLOYEE OF A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION.

I believe that it is in the best interest of the general public to have the building official employed by the governmental subdivision and not be an employee of a private organization. Duties of law are best administered by government which is not influenced or does not rely on a profit to exist. The primary goal of government is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public, not making a profit.

By way of background, I have been in the construction code industry for over (15) years as a building inspector, plan examiner. I am a current member of SEMBOIA and the International Code Council. I have been employed by a municipality for the entire length of time.

As a Conservative Republican I do feel that the private sector does play important role in controlling costs and reducing the size of Government, but in this particular case I believe that this role is best suited for the public sector which serves the public interest by protecting overall health, safety and welfare.

In conclusion, I support H.B. 5011 with the modification to section (H) which requires the Building Official to be employed by a governmental subdivision and not by a private organization.

Thank You,

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